

**Manistee Intermediate School District
Director Report**

Name: Jim Scranton
Department: Special Education
Month/Year: January, 2012

Below is a report of progress on our goals, for this month, as they relate to my program. Note highlighted areas for desired action or key dates to remember.

Manistee ISD will provide services

that will improve teaching and learning:

- Onekama and KND are in their second year of MiBLSi. They are continuing their involvement in the professional development activities as mandated by the requirements in the grant. ISD staff continue to support this initiative in their roles as MiBLSi coaches and are involved in all professional development activities as a part of the MiBLSi team.
- I am sending Shannon Shull, one of our school psychologists and our Crisis Prevention Intervention (CPI) trainer (physical management), to an advanced 3 day training. She already completed a 3 day training 2 years ago to become a certified trainer for CPI. We provide this training to local district staff. To be certified, staff must complete a one day training and an annual ½ day “refresher” training.
- I will be making a request to the board to approve a new bus assistant position. We presently have two buses with assistants and need to add one to one of our longer routes for safety purposes.
- Next school year, our SCI numbers will, at least, double. This is due to move-in students and the need to move three SCI students from our ECSE classroom into the SCI program. Currently, the SCI and older, MCI classrooms have been combined under one teacher. I am looking at the possible need to add a new teacher for the SCI program. This will be on the February board agenda for discussion and possible approval.

to assist local districts to comply with local, state and federal mandates:

- I have asked our Compliance Monitor, Darryl Petterson, to review all of our local districts “in-school” suspension programs and policies. The state has made this a priority, after receiving “monitoring” from the federal government. He will be meeting directly with principals and special education staff to review their procedures. I will meet with him, after the reviews are completed, to determine if we need to make any recommendations or changes to the locals regarding how they are utilizing in-school suspension.
- Our MISD Plan needs to be amended to include the new EI Classroom. I received signatures from the superintendents this week and will have the Parent Advisory Committee approve as well before sending to the state for approval.

to improve the quality, enhance efficiency, and foster cooperation and collaboration in our educational service area.

- There is a strong possibility of needing to move our ECSE classroom from the portable outside of Madison Elementary. MAPS has indicated that they may be closing Madison as early as this fall or definitely, the following year. Location in an elementary building in a room with a bathroom would be necessary. We have a legal obligation to integrate our pre-school students into “regular” pre-school programs so this would need to be a consideration when deciding where the classroom is located. John Chandler’s best guess is that our EI and MCI classrooms, currently in MHS and Kennedy, would not be affected by the closing of Madison. Also, with the increase of SCI students next fall, we will need to have a larger classroom, than we are currently in, for this program. I will be working with the superintendents during the next month or so to come up with possible options for the ECSE and SCI classrooms.